

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE  
AND LEGACY OF SCOTT DAVIDSON

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 4, 2020*

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, with feelings of sorrow, reverence, and immense gratitude, I rise today to honor the memory of Scott Davidson, who passed away last week after his battle with the coronavirus. As a proud member of the Kansas City Fire Department, Scott spent over a third of his life serving and protecting the people of Kansas City, Missouri.

Scott started his career with the Kansas City Fire Department in 2002 as a communication specialist with the Municipal Ambulance Services Trust, which provided emergency medical services to the Kansas City area. As a communication specialist, Scott served as the calming voice on the other side of the phone tasked with reassuring distressed families that help was on the way. Scott's calm demeanor and steady hand provided much needed hope in moments of darkness. Indeed, Scott helped ease worried minds, but more importantly, he played a vital role in saving countless lives throughout the city we call home. In 2010, Scott became a paramedic for the Department, joining a team that served as the first response to desperate cries for help. Each individual who, in a moment of crisis, called on Scott for help will forever remember and appreciate his heroic, lifesaving efforts as he sprang into action at a moment's notice. For Scott, as with countless paramedics across the country, saving lives and offering hope was the inspiration that prompted him to raise his hand and volunteer to risk his life for his community. In the days leading up to his untimely death, he was still on the frontlines, dispatching first responders to help those stricken by the same deadly virus that would eventually claim his own life.

More than anything, Scott was a man of faith who was a joy to all those who met him. Described by those who worked with him as having a personality and heart that was larger than life, Scott and his wife, Robin, treated the firefighters at Station 33 as if they were members of their own family. Together they celebrated the birth of every child in their fire station family, provided baked goods and treats to those working at the station during the holidays, and mourned with the families of other first responders who gave their lives in the line of duty.

Jackson County, Missouri has seen 175 neighbors, friends, and family members die from this virus. Scott, Captain Robert Rocha, and EMT Billy Birmingham are the first three of Kansas City's finest first responders who have succumbed to Coronavirus while helping save others. Scott dedicated over a third of his life to serving Kansas City and its people. My fervent hope is that Scott's death will serve as a reminder that we must stand together in the face of the adversity that plagues us. Wearing a protective mask, social distancing, and getting tested not only protects you from getting sick; it also ensures that first responders like Scott can go home to their families at the end of the day without worrying whether they or their loved ones will get sick. In times of unforeseen tragedy, I am comforted by the

teachings of Isaiah the prophet: When the righteous man perishes, he is taken away from calamity and enters into peace. A loving father, a dutiful public servant, and a beloved community member, Scott has rightfully earned the eternal peace that is awarded to the righteous man.

The thoughts of the Kansas City community and the Fifth Congressional District are with Robin and their three children, Scott's extended family, and the innumerable Kansas City Fire Department employees who were fortunate enough to work with him. Our community is mourning the untimely death of a young father, but we are also celebrating a life dedicated to serving and saving others. Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Scott's legacy and offering our deepest condolences to his family. I also ask that you, other members of the House of Representatives, and the American people remember Scott and his family's sacrifice as we continue to combat the Coronavirus pandemic.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GUY RESCENTHALER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 4, 2020*

Mr. RESCENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House on December 3, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted nay on Roll Call No. 230, nay on Roll Call No. 231, and yea on Roll Call No. 232.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 4, 2020*

Ms. FOXX of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, due to a test indicating a positive result for a COVID-19 infection during the most recent district work period, I was unable to travel to the Capitol to vote on December 3, 2020. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 230; NAY on Roll Call No. 231; and NAY on Roll Call No. 232.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 4, 2020*

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I unfortunately failed to register my vote on the motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended, H.R. 1380, the Big Cat Public Safety Act.

While casting a proxy vote for my colleague, I unintentionally overlooked casting my own vote purely by oversight. As a cosponsor of the bill and having just cast a proxy vote for the bill clearly I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 232.

CONGRATULATING AARON W.  
SUTHERLAND

**HON. JOE CUNNINGHAM**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 4, 2020*

Mr. CUNNINGHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the election of Aaron W. Sutherland to the Newport Board of Education in Newport, Kentucky.

Aaron is a proud son of Carrollton, Kentucky where he set out at an early age to serve his community. Aaron was active in student government at every level of his academic career and he has always been devoted to helping others. In fact, I met Aaron while we were both serving on the Student Bar Association of the Salmon P. Chase College of Law. Aaron believed that service to his colleagues required action to advance their causes. His inquisitive and civic-minded attitude is infectious, and those who know him know that he has their best interest at heart.

Aaron is a proud attorney, and devotes himself to helping his clients. In addition to practicing law, he is also a civil servant. His time dedicated to both the United States Department of Labor and the United States Social Security Administration demonstrates his passion for serving others.

Aaron also believes in public education. This year, Aaron set out to serve the children and teachers of Newport, Kentucky. He was elected on a platform of putting the students first, and that is exactly what he will do as a member of that body. Aaron believes that everyone deserves a high-quality education and he will work to make sure that all students have the opportunity to succeed.

The people of Newport are lucky to have Aaron serving on their Board of Education, and I am lucky to call him my friend.

RECOGNIZING SUPERVISOR JOHN  
GRAY

**HON. TOM McCLINTOCK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 4, 2020*

Mr. McCLINTOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize John Gray for his devoted service as a Tuolumne County Supervisor.

Supervisor Gray was first elected to serve the 4th District of Tuolumne County in 2008 and has represented the people of this county and his district with passion, commitment and integrity ever since.

Supervisor Gray is well known for his many accomplishments and contributions to the community, including his leadership during an economic recession in 2008, acquiring grant funds to construct two Community Resilience Centers as well as two new Detention Facilities, and his consistent participation in fuels reduction and fire protection work. John has also been an instrumental leader for a special tax in support of Tuolumne County Ambulance in Groveland and implementing requirements of the Health Care and Public Safety realignments.

In his 12 years of service, John Gray will be remembered by the partnerships he built, his commitment to be a good steward of taxpayer